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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/817,343	04/02/2004	Antonio R. Alfaro	23648-71015	3303
27730 7590 03/20/2008 JOHN W. GOLDSCHMIDT, JR. ESQUIRE DILWORTH PAXON LLP 3200 MELLON BANK CENTER 1735 MARKET STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103				
EXAMINER				
NGUYEN, KIEN T				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3711				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/20/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/817,343

Applicant(s)

ALFARO, ANTONIO R.

Examiner

KIEN T. NGUYEN

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 19-29 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-9, 12-18 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 10, 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 12-18, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Capelli U.S. Patent 3,846,199 in view of Rinehart U.S. Patent 5,735,895.

Capelli disclosed an artificial eye comprising at least four preformed components (16, 18, 20, 22) fused together; the ring (16) as shown in Figs. 1 and 5 is considered an outer ring (applicant's claim 30); the components comprising a base component (12), a pupil component, an iris component, and a cornea component (col. 4, lines 6-8); the components are colored (col. 3, lines 30-34); the base (12) having an outer surface, an inner surface (see Fig. 1). It is noted that Capelli failed to teach the components are made of glass as set forth therein. However, an artificial glass eye is very well known in the art as evidenced by Rinehart (see the specification). Therefore, it would have been to substitute the plastic materials of the components of Capelli with the glass material as taught by Rinehart because the substitution of one known element for another would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the purpose of providing a more realistic looking artificial eye.

Regarding the limitation "wherein air is substantially prevented from being trapped between the components", Capelli does not appear to show any air pocket

existing between the components (see Fig. 1) and also Capelli does not express a desire to have any air pocket between the components. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that there is no air pocket being trapped between the components of Capelli.

Regarding claims 8, 9, 15-18, it is noted that the combination of Capelli and Rinehart failed to teach various decorative features as set forth therein. However, such features are merely for decorative purpose and it would have been a matter of design choice to incorporate any desired decorative material and/or color to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the artificial glass eye.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 10, 11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new explanation regarding the limitation "wherein air is substantially prevented from being trapped between said components" above.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIEN T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-4428. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kien. T. Nguyen/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3711

Ktn